

# SR 41 (Lancaster Pike) Safety Project August 15, 2005 Meeting Minutes



**Date:** August 17, 2005  
**Time:** 3:00 PM  
**Location:** DelDOT Field Office  
**Re:** August 15, 2005 - Construction Working Group (Meeting Minutes)

## **Attendees**

Mr. Ken Murphy, GHADA  
Ms. Peg Castorani, Gateway Garden Center  
Mr. Norm Buczik, Doc's Meat Market  
Mr. Salvano Del Signore, Kim's Kafé  
Mr. Mike Balbierer, DelDOT  
Mr. Ted Parker, DelDOT Project Resident Engineer  
Mr. Jesse Chadderdon, Community News Publications  
Mr. Chuck Gregory, Whitman, Requardt & Associates

## **Project Schedule**

Mr. Parker explained that due to utility issues, the project has gotten off to a slow start and now will not be able to be completed within one season. Construction began in May and is currently in Phase 1 (southbound side construction). Phase 1 is expected to last into September/October. Phase 2 will then commence, and will last through the winter. It is expected that Phase 2 will be completed in spring 2006. The project is currently scheduled for a July 2006 completion. Phase 3 is anticipated to last between May and July.

Mr. Balbierer stated that the Contractor has a predetermined amount of calendar days to finish the work per the contract documents. The contract length was extended due to delays outside of the Contractor's control such as utility relocations. The Contractor will be charged a pre-specified amount of liquidated damages for each day extra after the allotted time (plus time extensions) has expired.

Mr. Murphy inquired on the timing of the Old Lancaster Pike portion of the project. Mr. Parker replied that it would most likely be completed next spring. The improvements include construction of curb and gutter with a slotted drain to provide drainage and roadway delineation.

## **Valley Road Signal**

It was explained that due to roadway width restrictions, there is no room for a left-turn lane until the near-completion of the project, which will likely be July 2006.

## **Maintenance of Traffic/Access**

It was previously brought to the group's attention that the owner of Kim's Kafé stated that they are not getting flooded from storm events since the existing stormwater management pond has been cleaned out. That apparently was not correct. He stated that he has had to employ the use of sand bags to prevent flooding of his business. In a related issue, Mr. Parker stated that the State

will excavate any sediment that has accumulated into the existing pond due to erosion from the SR 41 project.

Mr. Balbierer stated that the next two phases will have a very similar layout as the first phase; however, traffic will be shifted to the newly constructed southbound side as they work on the northbound widening.

Mr. Parker confirmed that businesses with dual entrances will have one entrance closed while the Contractor builds the other. Once the first entrance has been constructed, the Contractor will switch over to the other entrance. The Wachovia Bank entrance is an example of this approach.

### **Miscellaneous**

Ms. Castorani mentioned that she has had dump trucks parking in her entrances and blocking access to her business, and was wondering how best to handle it. Mr. Parker responded that if the problem persists that she could call him and he will address it with the Contractor.

The working group members asked if nighttime paving operations were possible. Mr. Parker stated that he would look into it; however, it did not look likely, because night work was not dictated in the contract.

Mr. Del Signore asked DelDOT to keep an eye on the grading of the temporary entrance tie-ins because the entrance to the Shoppes of Hockessin (Kim's Kafé) was underwater after the last big storm event. Mr. Buczik stated that once a call was placed to Spencer McDowell (Assistant Project Engineer) the entrances issues were immediately corrected.

Mr. Buczik inquired about the construction of the intersections, as to whether they are going to be built in "halves" as the current construction is taking place, or would they be constructed after the widening was finished. Mr. Parker responded that they are being built in "halves" as part of the current construction.

Mr. Murphy inquired about whether the Department's current budgetary issues would affect this project in any way (completion date, length of project, or miscellaneous expenses). Mr. Balbierer explained that the Department has made the commitment to honor all of the outstanding construction contracts.

Mr. Murphy inquired as to the limits of the sidewalk in the project. Mr. Gregory responded that new sidewalk is proposed in the following areas:  
SB-Yorklyn Road to opposite PAL Center.  
NB-Happy Harry's to Former Shields Site.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Working Group meeting is on September 12<sup>th</sup>.